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U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

DRAFT

Roseburg District Office
777 N.W. Garden Valley Boulevard
Roseburg, Oregon 97470

August 1992



Roseburg District Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

Summary



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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Roseburg District Office
777 NW Garden Valley Boulevard
Roseburg, Oregon 97470



IN REPLY REFER TO:

Dear Reader:

You are cordially invited to assist the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in a planning process that is important to you and your interests.

We ask for your participation in evaluating this draft of the Roseburg District Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (Draft RMP/EIS) that has been prepared in conformance with land use planning procedures established by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

The planning area encompassed by this document is BLM's Roseburg District. The planning area includes approximately 419,400 acres of federal land administered by BLM, located in Douglas county.

There are seven management alternatives, each with a different emphasis and each addressing the planning issues in a different way. Public comment played an important role in shaping both the issues and the alternatives which have been analyzed in this Draft RMP/EIS. Before the Preferred Alternative was developed, suggestions received from individuals, interest groups, and other governmental entities were thoroughly considered. These suggestions were utilized to strike a reasonable balance, considering relevant legal mandates, between the desires expressed to emphasize the production of commodity resources; maintain the current flow of resources from the public lands; and protect, restore, and enhance natural values.

Through this Draft RMP/EIS the BLM has tentatively established, resource management goals (as expressed by each alternative); resource management objectives and specific management actions which would determine the potential land uses; levels of resource production; areas in which use restrictions would apply; and lands which could be transferred, sold, or exchanged.

The end product of this planning process will be an Approved Resource Management Plan (ARMP) which will integrate the natural resources and their subsequent uses into a balanced, sustainable approach to multiple use management of the Roseburg District for the life of the plan, or approximately the next 10 years. Your participation in guiding the future management of these lands is encouraged. The ARMP will replace and supersede the Dillard, South Umpqua, North Umpqua, and Drain Management Framework Plans, and the Roseburg Timber Management EIS, 1983, for the Douglas and South Umpqua sustained yield units.

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We would appreciate you reviewing this document and providing us with your written comments by December 21, 1992. Comments are most useful when they address one or more of the following: 1) errors in the analysis that has been performed, 2) new information that would have a bearing on the analysis, 3) misinformation that may have been utilized and could affect the outcome of the analysis, 4) requests for clarification, and 5) support of an existing alternative or definition of a substantive new alternative within the range of alternatives considered (an alternative that would provide a different mix of allocations than any existing alternative). To assist you in this, you are invited to contact Phil Hall, Planning Team Leader, at any time during the comment period.

We welcome any information that will help us to best develop a management plan and analyze its anticipated effects. For example, although we have identified and quantified primary economic effects of the alternatives, we recognize that there are other effects on social values that are important, even though they are very difficult to describe or measure. Your comments may help us to better address these and other effects in the proposed RMP/Final EIS.

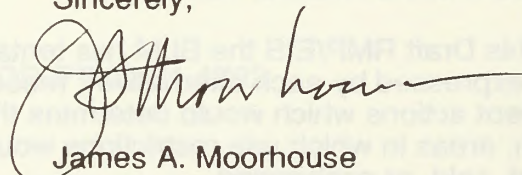
The map showing major plant groups and old-growth was not available when this document went to print. As soon as it is available, it will be sent to those receiving a copy of this Draft RMP/EIS.

BLM employees will be available at informal public meetings to be held during the comment period. Public meetings will be held in the Roseburg District Office and at other locations in Douglas county. The dates, times, and locations will be announced in a separate mailer as well as in the local news media.

If you are interested in an overview of all six BLM's western Oregon Draft Resource Management Plans, our Oregon State Office has published an executive summary of these plans. A copy may be obtained in our office or by writing to P.O. Box 2965, Portland Oregon 97208.

Thank you for your interest in the multiple use management of BLM-administered lands.

Sincerely,



James A. Moorhouse
District Manager

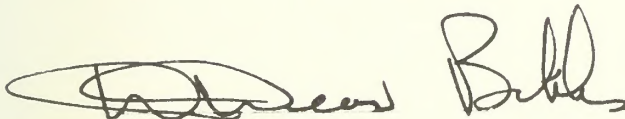
Enclosure: (as stated)

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Bureau of Land Management**

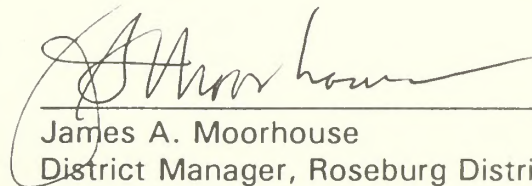
**Draft
Roseburg District
Resource Management Plan**

Environmental Impact Statement

**Prepared by
Roseburg District Office**

Handwritten signature of D. Dean Bibles in black ink.

D. Dean Bibles
State Director, Oregon/Washington

Handwritten signature of James A. Moorhouse in black ink.

James A. Moorhouse
District Manager, Roseburg District

Draft (X) Final () RMP/EIS
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

1. Type of Action: Administrative (X) Legislative ().
2. Abstract: This draft resource management plan/environmental impact statement addresses resource management on 419,400 acres of federal land administered by the Bureau of Land Management in its Roseburg District. Seven alternatives including no action (no change in the existing plan) are analyzed. These alternatives range from management of timber and other resources vital to the economy, to management and enhancement of values such as biological diversity, spotted owl habitat, old-growth forests, recreation opportunities, and scenic resources. The preferred alternative would provide a planned annual timber sale level of 16.3 mmcf (105 mmbf), while meeting established water quality criteria in all watersheds. Also, 91,700 acres of old-growth forest would be retained at the end of the first decade; three additional areas of critical environmental concern would be designated; and no river segments would be found suitable for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

3. The comment period will end on December 21, 1992.

4. For further information contact:

Phil Hall
RMP/EIS Team Leader
Bureau of Land Management
Roseburg District Office
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, Oregon 97470
Telephone: (503) 440-4930

User's Guide

The *Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) is a document that describes the potential impacts of a proposed project on the environment. It is a key tool for decision-making and is required by law for many projects. The EIS provides information about the project, the environment, and the impacts of the project. It also provides information about the alternatives to the project and the measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts.

Chapter 1 of the *Environmental Impact Statement* describes the project and the environment. It provides information about the project, the environment, and the impacts of the project. It also provides information about the alternatives to the project and the measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts.

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User's Guide

The Summary presents a synopsis of the draft RMP/EIS. It summarizes all alternatives but presents more detail for the preferred alternative. It summarizes the land use allocations for all issues. It also includes a summary of the environmental consequences and brief descriptions of monitoring, consistency with other governmental entities, and public involvement.

Chapter 1 is the Introduction to the draft RMP/EIS. This chapter includes a description of the planning area and the purpose and need for preparing the RMP/EIS. It also includes a discussion of the RMP's relationship to BLM policies, programs, and other plans and describes the planning process and planning criteria. Finally, it identifies the issues or concerns addressed in the RMP/EIS process.

Chapter 2 (Description of the Alternatives including the Preferred Alternative) has two major sections; Management Direction Common to All Alternatives and Management Direction by Alternative. The first section is particularly important to understanding how lands would be managed under every plan alternative. This chapter describes seven different alternatives which

respond to the 11 issues identified in Chapter 1. The alternatives provide a mix of uses and actions which could resolve the issues. This chapter includes a tabular summary of the alternatives so they can be compared. It also includes maps displaying the major land use allocations for each alternative, except No Action. These maps are located in a map packet included with this document.

Chapter 3 (Affected Environment) describes the environment that could be affected or changed by implementing any of the alternatives. This chapter includes a description of the environmental factors (water resources, vegetation, wildlife habitat, visual resources, etc.) and major uses (recreation, timber, etc.) related to the issues.

Chapter 4 (Environmental Consequences) describes potential impacts and changes to the affected environment if any of the alternatives were implemented. It includes an overview of each alternative's relationship to plans and programs of other government agencies.

Chapter 5 describes agencies and organizations BLM has worked with during the preparation of the draft RMP/EIS. It discusses relevant relationships with other agencies and summarizes public involvement.

The Summary presents a synopsis of the book's main findings. It is intended to provide a quick overview of the book's content for those who are interested in the book's findings but do not have time to read the book in its entirety. It also includes a list of the book's main findings and a list of the book's main conclusions.

Chapter 1 is the introduction to the book. It provides a brief overview of the book's content and a list of the book's main findings. It also includes a list of the book's main conclusions and a list of the book's main recommendations.

Chapter 2 is a description of the Alternatives Planning Process. It provides a brief overview of the process and a list of the book's main findings. It also includes a list of the book's main conclusions and a list of the book's main recommendations.

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Chapter 6 is a description of the Alternatives Planning Process. It provides a brief overview of the process and a list of the book's main findings. It also includes a list of the book's main conclusions and a list of the book's main recommendations.

DRMP/EIS Summary

Introduction

The Roseburg Resource Management Plan (RMP) will establish guidelines for the management of BLM-administered land in the Roseburg District for approximately ten years. It will supersede and replace four management framework plans covering the same area, completed in 1983. The Draft RMP/EIS has been prepared in accordance with the BLM planning regulations issued under authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and written in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations issued under authority of the National Environmental Policy Act.

BLM-administered lands in the planning area consist of 391,578 acres of O&C lands, 13,924 acres of CBWR lands, and 18,426 acres of public domain lands plus 1,717 acres of split estate (federal minerals).

Alternatives

Seven alternatives have been developed to provide a range of responses to major issues identified earlier in the planning process. These issues are: timber production practices; old-growth forests; habitat diversity; threatened and endangered species habitat; special areas; visual resources; stream, riparian and water quality protection; recreation resources, including wild and scenic rivers; land tenure; and rural interface areas. Of particular interest is whether or not to harvest the remaining old-growth forests and the related effects on regional and local economies, biological diversity and the northern spotted owl, a federally listed threatened species.

Each alternative offers a possible broad course of action that, if selected, would provide guidelines for future, more specific decisions. Site-specific management for various resources, annual timber sale plans, and issuance of rights-of-way, leases or permits will follow the guidelines identified in the RMP.

The land use or resource allocations of the alternatives are summarized in Table S-1, found at the end of the summary. Analysis of effects of each alternative except No Action has been facilitated by development of 10-year representative timber management scenarios. These reflect possible timber harvest units, road locations, and timber management practices during the life of the RMP. These scenarios include different levels of forest management practices (also shown in Table S-1). Anticipated environmental consequences of the alternatives are summarized in Table S-2, also located at the end of the summary.

A summary of the No Action alternative, alternatives A, B, C, D, E, and the Preferred Alternative follows. Maps of the alternatives and the preferred alternative strategies for western Oregon are in the enclosed map packet. (If you received only this summary, rather than the full Draft RMP/EIS, only the preferred alternative maps are enclosed.)

No Action - This alternative would entail no change from the management direction established in BLM's current management framework plans (except where Congress has since enacted legislation prescribing different management direction for specific geographic areas or transferring specific lands to the administration or ownership of other parties).

This alternative would emphasize timber production and other economically important values to contribute to community stability, consistent with the variety of other land uses. A system of blocks of old-growth and mature forest would be retained to contribute to ecological functions important to forest productivity. Restrictions of disturbance of fragile sites and riparian zones would mitigate adverse impacts on soil productivity and water quality. Lands would be allocated for the specific purpose of protecting unique natural values and special status species, including endangered species. Mitigation measures would be used to moderate impacts on fisheries, wildlife, cultural resources, and other non-timber values.

Alternative A - This alternative would emphasize a high production of timber and other economically important values on all lands, and contribute to community stability. It would produce the highest sustained yield of timber on all suitable forest lands legally available for harvest. It would also manage threatened and endangered species habitat and habitats of species proposed for such status as legally required. In addition, it would protect habitats of other species with high potential for listing if known only to exist on BLM-administered lands. One of nine existing Special Areas would be retained. To meet legal requirements for protection of wetlands and water quality, as well as protecting anadromous fish habitat and other relevant values, riparian zones would be managed according to requirements of the Oregon Forest Practices Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Recreation management emphasis would be on existing recreation sites (including the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic Corridor) and trails of high use and dispersed motorized recreation uses. Land tenure adjustments which enhance BLM long-term sustained yield timber harvest opportunities would be emphasized. No special timber management actions or mitigating measures would be provided in rural interface areas.

Alternative B - This alternative would emphasize timber production and other economically important values to contribute to community stability, consistent with the variety of other land uses, on Oregon and California Railroad (O&C) lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) lands. Public domain lands having greater importance for non-timber values and uses would be managed primarily for the maintenance of the non-timber values and uses. A system of blocks of old-growth and mature forest would be retained to contribute to ecological functions important to timber productivity. Habitat of threatened and endangered species and species proposed for such status would be protected. Other special status species would be protected to the extent they would not interfere with high timber production. Timber harvest would not be planned in riparian zones of important waters (third order and larger streams and wetlands). Seven of nine existing Special Areas would be retained, one existing Special Area would be expanded and one new one designated. No rivers (other than the already designated North Umpqua River) would be found suitable for designation as Wild and Scenic. Scenic resources would be managed in selected special status and high use areas. Recreation management would provide for a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation uses.

Land tenure adjustments of O&C and CBWR lands would be made primarily to acquire lands which would enhance timber management opportunities. Exchanges of public domain lands would be made to benefit one or more of the resources managed. Alternative forest management practices would be applied in rural interface areas which include lands zoned for occupancy of one to five-acre lots within 1/4-mile of BLM-managed lands.

Alternative C - This alternative would provide timber production to contribute to community stability consistent with the variety of other land uses. It would emphasize retention and improvement of biological diversity, retaining a system that maintains some old-growth and mature forest, stressing connectivity and focusing on areas where special status plant and animal species cluster. Habitats of threatened and endangered species, species proposed for such status, and species with a high potential for federal listing as threatened or endangered would be protected. Other species of related concern would be protected primarily through the emphasis on biological diversity. Timber harvest would not be planned in or immediately adjacent to riparian zones of important waters. Eight of nine existing Special Areas would be retained, four existing Special Areas would be expanded and two new ones would be designated. No rivers in addition to the North Umpqua would be recommended suitable

for designation as Wild and Scenic. Scenic resources would be managed in selected special status and high use areas. Recreation management would provide for a wide range of recreation opportunities, emphasizing dispersed use. Special forest management practices would be applied where appropriate in rural interface areas which include lands within 1/4-mile of areas zoned by Douglas County for one to five-acre residential lots. Land tenure adjustments would be made to benefit a variety of uses and values.

Alternative D - This alternative would emphasize management and enhancement of values such as diversity of wildlife habitat, dispersed non-motorized recreation opportunities, and scenic resources, consistent with a variety of other land uses including some timber production. Spotted owl habitat would be protected in accordance with the Conservation Strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl (Thomas et al. 1990). Species with a high potential for federal listing as threatened or endangered and other special status species would be protected. Timber harvest would not be planned in and adjacent to riparian zones of important waters or their immediate tributaries. Six of nine existing Special Areas would be retained, four existing Special Areas would be expanded, and three new ones designated. No additional rivers would be found suitable for designation as Wild and Scenic. All identified scenic resources would be managed as inventoried. Recreation management would emphasize dispersed non-motorized opportunities. Special timber harvest and forest management practices would be applied in rural interface areas which include lands within 1/4-mile of areas zoned for one to five-acre residential lots. Land tenure adjustments would be made to benefit a variety of uses and values.

Alternative E - This alternative would emphasize protection of older forests and management and enhancement of values such as dispersed non-motorized recreation opportunities and scenic resources. A sustained yield of timber would be produced consistent with the emphasis on these other values. All old-growth forest stands would be retained. Species with a high potential for Federal listing as threatened or endangered and other special status species would be protected. Timber harvest would not be planned in, or adjacent to, riparian zones. Six of nine existing Special Areas would be retained, four existing Special Areas would be expanded, and three new ones designated. Two additional rivers would be found suitable for designation as Wild and Scenic, with a recreation classification. All identified scenic resources would be managed and some visual resource protection would be provided for all lands. Recreation management would emphasize dispersed non-motorized opportunities. Special timber harvest and forest

management practices would be applied in rural interface areas. Land tenure adjustments would be made to emphasize enhancement of nontimber uses and values. Alternative forest management and timber harvest practices would be applied in rural interface areas which include lands zoned for occupancy of one to five-acre lots within 1/2-mile of BLM-managed lands.

Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative is the BLM's suggested planning solution. It will be reconsidered after review of public comments on this draft RMP/EIS. The preferred alternative was formulated after initial analysis of the effects of the other alternatives. In formulating it, the district's managers considered public comments received in response to the district's February 1991 Summary of the Analysis of the Management Situation and other comments received during the planning process.

BLM managers believe the preferred alternative best balances public demands and the capabilities and limitations of the resources, within the constraints of a variety of legal mandates. It represents a sustainable balance between protection of natural resources and production of economic outputs.

Planning Issues and Major Concerns Addressed by the Preferred Alternative

General

Inherent in all management practices is a goal of maintaining long-term site productivity of soils. This goal would be accomplished by use of best management practices and minimizing disturbance of fragile areas.

All BLM prescribed fire activities which could affect air quality would be conducted in accordance with the Oregon State Implementation Plan, administered by the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Oregon Smoke Management Plan, administered by the Department of Forestry.

Special management would be provided for the Pacific yew, the bark of which is the only currently approved (by the Food and Drug Administration) source of taxol, a promising agent for treatment of a variety of cancers. The strategy for management and collection of Pacific yew bark on federal lands is the subject of a separate environmental impact statement (EIS) being prepared

by the U.S. Forest Service, with BLM as a cooperating agency. BLM actions covered by this RMP will be consistent with the strategy under development. This strategy will include how to assure a sustainable yew supply with full consideration of ecosystem relationships of the yew. Included will be regeneration of yew and possible extraction of taxol without harvesting individual trees.

The BLM would aid and support the Oregon Economic Development Department's efforts to help isolated, small communities develop and implement alternative economic strategies as a partial substitute for their faltering timber based economies. Aid and support would consist mostly of coordination and prioritization of BLM recreation management and development activities which are mutually perceived by the BLM and the involved communities as benefiting the identified economic strategies.

Water Quality and Riparian Zones

To assure protection of water and water-dependent resources, the BLM would continue nonpoint source management in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Management activities would be consistent with Oregon's adopted statewide water quality management plan for forest practices, and comply with Oregon's water quality standards and guidelines. Best management practices would be selected to protect the identified beneficial uses of the water. They would be based on site-specific conditions, feasibility, and the water quality standards for waters potentially affected.

Since BLM-administered lands are a minority in many watersheds, impact analysis acknowledges that BLM can only partly influence water quality. Factored into BLM timber sale scheduling decisions would be an assessment of compliance with the anti-degradation policy of Oregon's water quality standards. This assessment would recognize the influence of actions by other parties.

In watersheds providing surface water to public water systems serving municipalities, the goal of management would be to provide treatable water at the point of intake to the system.

Riparian management areas (RMA) would be established to provide stewardship of riparian zones along perennial streams and other streams that carry fish and to protect natural functions. Within these RMAs, no timber harvest would be planned as part of the sustained yield timber management program but some harvest activities could occur to achieve resource

management objectives. These activities could include road construction and yarding corridors to facilitate timber harvest outside the RMA. RMA widths would be determined by on-the-ground riparian vegetation and stream characteristics. Average widths on each side of streams and other waters are expected to be as follows: 1st and 2nd order perennial streams 75 feet; 3rd order streams 105 feet (150 feet for any 1st through 3rd order stream that carries fish); 4th order 150 feet; 5th order 210 feet; 6th order 240 feet; lakes, ponds and other waters 150 feet. These widths for streams approximate one-and-a-half times the average riparian zone width of such streams as measured in two western Oregon BLM districts.

Old-Growth and Mature Forest

Old-growth conifer stands inventoried by the BLM contain dominant trees at least 200 years old, generally a multilayered canopy of various tree species, and standing and fallen dead trees. Old-growth forest habitat projections for the preferred alternative are shown in Figure S-1.

Forest lands not subject to planned timber harvest, due to allocation for protection of special values or concern about sustainability of timber production, total 63,000 acres. These lands currently include 14,300 acres of mature and 21,400 acres of old-growth stands.

An additional 121,900 acres would be managed to maintain and strengthen a system of old-growth emphasis areas, to help maintain a diversity of species in western Oregon. These 121,900 acres include 24,400 acres of mature stands and 37,100 acres of old-growth stands. These areas would incorporate some of the lands noted in the preceding paragraph. Regeneration harvest of timber in these areas would not occur until all younger stands on BLM-administered lands in such an area are at least 80 years old and research has shown that such harvest can be designed to retain or quickly reestablish old-growth characteristics. No such regeneration harvest would occur in the first decade.

The forests in these areas younger than 110 years old would be managed to control their density in order to accelerate creation of old-growth conditions. These areas would ultimately be subject to regeneration timber harvest on a cycle of some 300 years, with retention of biological legacies including six to ten green trees per acre in openings not to exceed five acres.

The old-growth emphasis areas would be linked by connectivity areas managed on a regeneration harvest cycle of 150 years, with retention of biological legacies

including 12 to 16 green trees per acre. Together these areas would contribute to regional biological diversity by linking to such areas in other districts and protected national forest lands. This would provide subregional and regional connectivity, and would contribute to the recovery of the northern spotted owl. These stands would also be managed to control their density, for the purpose of accelerating development of old-growth characteristics.

As of 1990, 114,700 acres (27 percent) of the BLM-administered forest land in the planning area have old-growth stands. Preferred alternative management would retain 91,700 acres of old-growth forest at the end of the expected 10-year life of the RMP, and provide 99,500 acres of old-growth if the plan were continued for 100 years. This would result in some long-term increase in biological diversity.

Timber

A total of 371,207 acres of commercial forest lands (GIS acres from the TPCC theme) were identified as suitable for timber production. In contrast, in the inventory of the late 1970s, 371,405 acres of High Intensity Management (GLO acres from the 1977 TPCC inventory) were identified as suitable for this purpose. These lands are considered capable of being reforested within five years after harvest and of being managed without irreversible resource damage. Approximately 332,600 acres of these lands would be managed for timber production, among other objectives.

The allocation of lands for timber production is shown graphically in Figure S-2. Some 144,300 suitable acres would be in the general forest management areas. This would include some lands managed under special restrictions to protect or enhance other resource values such as visual resources. Timber production under more extensive restrictions would also take place in connectivity areas and old-growth emphasis areas. See Table S-2 for comparison with other alternatives. The annual allowable timber sale quantity (ASQ) would be 16.3 million cubic feet (105 million board feet Scribner short log for the first decade). This is 57 percent below the current ASQ and 54 percent below the average harvested in the 1984-1988 period.

Lands in general forest management areas not managed under special restrictions would be managed on a regeneration harvest cycle of 90 to 110 years (CMAI). Biological legacies, including an six to eight green trees per acre, would be retained to assure forest health and sustainability of timber production. Some aspects of timber management in old-growth

emphasis areas and connectivity areas are described in the previous discussion of Old-Growth and Mature Forest. Some timber would be harvested during density management on the old-growth emphasis areas and connectivity areas. Commercial thinning would be applied in timber management emphasis areas where practicable and where research indicates there would be gains in timber production.

New timber harvest roads would be kept to the minimum necessary for management. Two-hundred and fifteen miles of new roads are expected to support timber sales sold during the life of the RMP. This would expand the existing BLM timber management road network by about eight percent.

Four types of site preparation treatment would be used to prepare newly harvested and inadequately reforested areas for planting of trees: prescribed burning, herbicide application, and mechanical and manual techniques. Selection of treatments for site preparation, as well as for later management of vegetation suppressing conifer seedlings, would use an integrated vegetation management approach, emphasizing techniques proven most effective at assuring seedling survival and growth. This is in conformance with BLM's 1992 Record of Decision, Western Oregon Program - Management of Competing Vegetation. Prevention of conditions that cause or favor the establishment of damaging levels of competing or unwanted vegetation is the preferred strategy. Although broadcast burning would be the primary site preparation method, it would be avoided on highly sensitive soils. Burning would be conducted in accordance with Oregon Smoke Management Plan rules and directives administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry, so that air quality would be maintained.

Harvested areas would be planted with indigenous commercial conifer tree species to promptly achieve adequate reforestation following regeneration timber harvest. This generally would occur within a year after completion of harvesting. Genetically selected seedlings, from a broad selection of parent trees to maintain genetic diversity, would be used to the extent available.

Pre-commercial thinning would be applied in managed stands to meet both timber management and density management objectives. Fertilization would be applied to stands pre-commercially or commercially thinned, stands partially harvested for density management, and other stands where plantation spacing has achieved desired results. These intensive management practices plus planned conversion of lands now growing brush or hardwoods to predominately conifer stands, would contribute 0.34 MMCF (two percent) of the preferred alternative (ASQ). By comparison, in the

current plans the same set of practices contribute 15 percent of the ASQ. The intensive practices of the past three decades provide an integral contribution to this decade's ASQ level. The change in the significance of intensive practices in this decade's ASQ determination is due to a combination of factors. Included among the interacting factors which cause this change are non-traditional silvicultural regimes in which intensive practices cannot presently be modeled, deferred harvest allocations, and the available inventory age class distribution.

Special Status (including Threatened and Endangered) Species Habitat

BLM management would be designed to protect federal listed or proposed threatened and endangered species. Proposed projects that might affect such species are reviewed with the Fish and Wildlife Service through consultation under the Endangered Species Act. Consistent with policy identified in BLM's nationwide "Fish and Wildlife 2000" plan, habitats would be managed to maintain populations of federal candidate species at a level which would not contribute to the need to list the species. BLM actions would be designed to similarly protect state-listed and Bureau sensitive species. Permitted and management actions would not be expected to lead to federal listing of any species. Table S-3 shows the numbers of plant and animal species in the above-mentioned categories that have been identified as inhabiting BLM-administered lands in the planning area:

To support the Pacific Bald Eagle Recovery Plan, six existing nest sites and 4660 acres of habitat would be protected.

All actions would be consistent with the Columbian White-tailed Deer Recovery Plan. Timber harvest or other vegetation altering activities on all BLM-administered lands (6,161 acres) within the general area of distribution will only occur if determined to be beneficial to Columbian White-tailed deer or until such time that definitive information is available describing the use level and value of these lands in the context of meeting recovery plan goals.

The northern spotted owl recovery plan was not final when the BLM's preferred alternative was developed. Elements of the Draft Recovery Plan, however, were included in the preferred alternative. Among those were protective management of proposed designated conservation areas (DCA), with almost all of them included in old-growth emphasis areas (OGEA). The old-growth emphasis areas would be managed to accelerate the development of spotted owl habitat

where such habitat does not exist. The connectivity areas would be managed to provide spotted owl dispersal and support habitat. In addition, 80 to 100 acres around each site occupied by an owl pair would be protected until the site is vacated and the habitat is no longer considered important to spotted owl recovery. None of these acres would be harvested in the first decade.

Analysis of the effects of this management in a spatial population model indicates that the habitat resulting from this management after ten years would have a carrying capacity of 14 to 42 pairs of spotted owls. After 100 years the habitat would have a carrying capacity of 28 to 70 pairs of owls. The ranges vary according to optimism of assumptions about the relationship between the amount of suitable habitat at a location and pair formation and reproduction. In comparison, current inventories (through 1991) show 207 pairs of owls. The population model, however, indicates that current habitat carrying capacity is only 36 to 53 pairs. This is due to the substantial decline in owl habitat on all ownerships in recent years, which has left many remaining stands inadequate to support successful breeding and packed owls too tightly into many of the remaining areas of adequate habitat. Comparison of the effects of other alternatives is shown in Table S-2.

Other Wildlife (including Fish) Habitat

The old-growth emphasis areas and the connectivity areas linking them would provide biological connectivity corridors for a variety of species. To contribute to biological diversity, nonmerchantable down, dead woody material would be retained on all areas from which timber is harvested. Enough green trees and snags would be identified for retention to contribute to long-term support of cavity nester populations on BLM-administered lands at 70 percent of the optimum woodpecker population level. This compares to a current condition estimate of 54 percent.

Unique habitats such as talus slopes, meadows, and wetlands would be managed to protect their primary habitat values. They would also be buffered 100 to 200 feet from harvest of standing timber. The special habitat buffer would be an area designated and managed for the protection or enhancement of the special habitat.

The habitat of elk and other species would be protected through closure of certain roads to the public to minimize disturbance. To help meet population goals of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, forage plants would be seeded. This would be done following timber harvest in big game management areas where

big game forage is considered deficient, and where seeding would be compatible with other resource objectives.

Consistent with BLM's nationwide "Fish and Wildlife 2000" plan, the fisheries potential of anadromous fish streams would be enhanced. Large woody debris and snags in and adjacent to streams would be retained unless the debris obstructs fish passage or has the potential to degrade a stream channel. In combination with BLM riparian zone protection this management is expected to contribute to an overall long-term (200 year) 46 percent increase in potential production of salmon and steelhead in streams affected by habitat on BLM-administered lands. To the extent of available funding, fish habitat improvement projects would be undertaken to correct factors limiting anadromous fish production. Included would be projects improving 25 miles of existing stream habitat for salmon and steelhead.

Special Areas

Six existing special areas would be retained, four existing special areas would be expanded, and two new special areas would be designated. Total allocation would be 4,111 acres compared to a present allocation of 2,553 acres.

Recreation

Consistent with BLM's nationwide "Recreation 2000" plan, lands would be managed for a wide variety of recreation opportunities. There would be particular emphasis on enhancement of opportunities for picnicking, camping, and trail use.

All 17 existing recreation sites and trails would remain open. Twenty-seven additional sites and trails would be developed if funding is available. The emphasis of facility management and development would be to accommodate the increasing demand for recreation opportunities close to population centers and accessible by road.

Four road segments (both BLM roads and county roads on BLM-administered lands) totaling 89 miles would be designated Back Country Byways, components of the National Scenic Byway System.

As part of management of the use of off-road vehicles, 19,500 acres would be closed either seasonally or year round to vehicle uses. Use for administrative purposes and authorized removal of commercial commodities such as timber would be excepted. Some 2,250 miles would be open and 250 miles open to limited use.

Use for all recreation activities would be expected to increase during the life of the RMP. Expected demand would be met for all activities except for off-road vehicle use.

Additional emphasis would be placed on interpretive and informational signing and maps to support state and local strategies for encouraging tourism.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

No river segments would be recommended as suitable for designation by Congress under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. A 17.5 mile segment of Smith River and a 10.7 mile segment of Canton Creek which were found eligible for designation and studied by BLM would be found not suitable for such designation.

Visual Resources

The 25 acres protected by Congressional designation would be managed for preservation of scenic quality. To retain scenic quality, 38,348 acres of other highly sensitive land would be managed so that landscape alterations caused by management would not attract attention. An additional 6,224 acres of visually sensitive lands would be managed so that landscape alterations would not dominate the view, to partially retain scenic quality.

Cultural Resources

Prehistoric and historic sites would continue to be identified and managed for their public and scientific uses.

Land Tenure

Lands adjustments would emphasize exchanges to benefit multiple resource values. As a matter of practice, substantial areas of O&C forest lands allocated as available for timber management would not be exchanged for lands to be managed for single use management purposes. Any exchanges involving O&C lands would be done in close consultation with the O&C counties. Only public domain lands, however, would be exchanged for the specific purpose of supporting recovery of a threatened or endangered species. Lands would be categorized in the following zones: 35,930 acres where lands would be retained in BLM's administration; 374,168 acres where land ownership may be blocked up in exchanges for other lands, transferred to other public agencies or given some form of cooperative management; and 13,830 acres of lands scattered and isolated, with no known

unique resource values. BLM-administered lands in the last category would be exchanged for private inholdings in the other zones or could be considered for sale or for transfer to another agency or local government.

Energy and Minerals

Most BLM-administered lands would remain available for mineral leasing of oil and gas or geothermal resources and location of mining claims, but a variety of designations and allocations such as areas of critical environmental concern or closure to off-road vehicles, restrict exploration and development.

These restriction levels represent some increase in restrictions compared to the current plan, primarily due to recreation sites, special areas, and threatened and endangered species.

Rural Interface Areas

VRM Class III management (and other special timber management practices) would be applied on 8,552 acres of BLM-administered lands within 1/4 mile of private lands where county zoning allows for development on one to five acre lots.

Socioeconomic Conditions

BLM timber management programs are expected to support 540 jobs and provide \$13 million a year in personal income during the life of the plan. Those jobs are 1020 (65 percent) less than the average supported in the 1984-1988 period. Recreation activities on BLM-administered lands are expected to support 40 jobs, an increase of 10 from 1984-1988.

The net decline in jobs cited above combines with an expected decline in jobs supported by U.S. Forest Service, private and other timber supplies. This would lead to substantial job losses in some communities in the planning area with consequent adverse effects on community stability.

Jobs are also supported by downstream and offshore recreational and commercial fishing for fish supported by BLM habitat. However, fishing opportunities related to BLM management are not expected to change in the next ten years.

Monitoring The RMP

Monitoring and evaluation of the resource management plan would be carried out at appropriate intervals for the following purposes:

- To be sure activities are occurring in conformance with the RMP.
- To determine if activities are producing the expected results.
- To determine if activities are causing the effects identified in the environmental impact statement.

Consistency with State, Local, Tribal and Other Federal Plans

BLM planning regulations require that resource management plans be consistent with officially approved or adopted resource-related plans, and the policies and procedures therein, of the Federal agencies, state and local governments and Indian tribes, so long as the RMPs are also consistent with applicable Federal laws and regulations. The BLM has compared the preferred alternative of the draft RMP with a variety of such plans of other agencies. This alternative appears to be consistent with all such plans, policies and procedures, except the following.

Public Involvement

Public involvement has been an integral part of BLM's resource management planning effort. Activities have included mailers or brochures, public meetings, open houses, field trips, distribution of planning documents and related comment periods, informal contacts, group meetings, written letters, and responses to comments. These efforts began in May 1986.

Subsequent mailers at least once a year requested comments on issue identification, development of planning criteria contained in state director guidance for the process, and BLM's analysis of the management situation which set the baseline for development of the Draft RMP/EIS. Suggestions for formulation of the preferred alternative were also requested.

The draft RMP/EIS has been released for public review and comment until December 21, 1992. After comments are received they will be evaluated. Substantive recommendations may lead to changes in the analysis of environmental consequences or one or more of the RMP alternatives. The proposed RMP/final EIS is expected to be completed for public review next spring. Any protests on that document will be reviewed and addressed by the director of BLM before a record of decision on the RMP is completed.

Table S-1. Major Land Use or Resource Allocations and Actions on BLM-Admtered Lands, by Alternative

	No Action	Allocations/Management Actions by Alternative				
		A	B	C	D	E Preferred
Timber						
Forest Management Allocations (acres):						
Intensive	331,600	353,300	318,900	0	0	23,900 144,300
Restricted	35,900	0	2,400	270,200	207,200	23,400 188,300
Enhancement of Other Uses or Not						
Available	34,400	39,400	71,600	125,300	188,400	348,200 63,000
Allowable Sale						
Quantity (MMCF)	40.5	47.7	44.0	11.2	14.3	3.2 16.3
Allowable Sale						
Quantity (MMBF)	247	315	291	74	92	18 105
Practices (assumed average annual acres for first decade):						
Regeneration						
Harvest	57,000	74,000	66,600	32,400	18,900	6,700 32,200
Commercial thinning						
/density mgmt. harvest	1400/0	1700/0	1600/0	1100/4300	1000	* 1300/5100
Site Preparation						
Prescribed Fire	44,500	30,000	30,000	24,300	10,400	5,000 24,200
Other	4,000	3,700	3,300	1,600	700	300 1,600
Brushfield/Hardwood						
Conversion	0	600	500	0	300	100 500
Planting/Regular Stock	52,300	54,100	45,200	19,400	3,300	5,400 3,900
Planting/Genetically						
Selected Stock	15,200	34,700	34,700	19,400	13,300	2,700 34,700
Stand Maintenance/Protection	70,800	49,600	44,600	21,700	9,300	4,500 21,600
Release/Pre-commercial Thinning	40,400	60,500	55,100	43,500	32,400	7,800 52,800
Fertilization	55,600	62,300	57,600	47,300	36,300	8,300 58,200
New road construction (miles/acres)	500/2727	500/2727	450/2455	190/1036	190/1036	35/191 215/1173

Table S-1. Major Land Use or Resource Allocations and Actions on BLM-Admtered Lands, by Alternative (cont.)

	No Action	A	B	C	D	E	Preferred
Special Status Species Including Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat							
Areas where all Category 1 and 2 Federal candidate, State listed and Bureau sensitive species would be protected if present	423,896	62,806	113,325	116,965	419,074	419,074	419,373
Special Areas							
Existing RNA/ACECs retained (#/acres)	4/613	1/170	4/613	4/613	4/613	4/613	4/613
Other Existing ACECs retained (#/acres)	4/1855	0	3/1840	3/1840	1/1840	1/1840	1/1840
New RNA/ACECs designated (#/acres)	0	0	1/793	3/1922	3/1922	3/1922	2/964
Other new ACECs designated (#/acres)	0	0	0	0	1/727	1/727	1/727
Environmental Education Areas (#/acres)	1/85	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total RNA/ACECs (#/acres)	4/613	1/170	5/1406	7/2535	7/2535	7/2535	6/1577
Total other ACECs (#/acres)	4/1855	0	3/1840	3/1840	2/2567	2/2567	2/2567
Visual Resources							
Acres managed	30	25	25	25	0	6,311	25
VRM Class I							
Acres managed	9,300	15,176	30,194	43,514	86,779	141,887	38,348
VRM Class II							
Acres managed	13,600	2,005	6,681	7,189	22,855	271,937	6,224
VRM Class III							
Acres managed	401,070	402,929	383,235	369,403	310,501	0	375,538
VRM Class IV							

Table S-1. Major Land Use or Resource Allocations and Actions on BLM-Admtered Lands, by Alternative (cont.)

	No Action	A	B	C	D	E	Preferred
Recreation Resources							
Recreation Sites							
Existing (# sites/acres)	11/1135	11/1135	11/1135	11/1135	11/1135	11/1135	11/1135
New (# sites/acres)	7/85	0/0	3/65	7/107	18/285	18/285	18/285
Trails maintained							
Existing (# trails/miles)	6/13.5	6/13.5	6/13.5	6/13.5	6/13.5	6/13.5	6/13.5
New (# trails/miles)	3/4.5	0/0	0/0	4/4.5	7/10	7/10	7/10
Special Recreation Management Areas							
Existing (#/acres)	1/1620	1/1620	1/1620	1/1620	1/1620	1/1620	1/1620
New (#/acres)	1/1540	0/0	0/0	1/1540	1/1540	1/1540	1/1540
Backcountry Byways (#/miles)							
Acres open to ORV use	4/89	4/89	4/89	4/89	4/89	4/89	4/89
Acres limited to ORV use	409,670	409,670	407,234	405,935	405,004	405,004	405,004
Acres closed to ORV use	0	0	0	0	117,935	414,659	414,659
	10,465	10,465	12,901	14,200	15,131	15,131	15,131
Wild and Scenic Rivers							
River segments found suitable for designation:							
As Recreational (#/miles)	0	0	0	0	0	185	0
As Scenic (#/miles)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
As Wild (#/miles)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table S-1. Major Land Use or Resource Allocations and Actions on BLM-Admtered Lands, by Alternative (cont.)

	No Action	A	B	C	D	E	Preferred
Energy and Mineral Management							
Acres available for oil and gas and geothermal leasing	421,062	421,062	421,062	421,062	421,062	421,062	421,062
Acres closed to oil, gas and geothermal lease	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
Acres open to mining claim location and operation	416,162	416,960	415,674	414,500	414,323	412,951	414,323
Acres closed to mining location	3,211	2,413	3,699	4,873	5,050	6,422	5,050
Rural Interface Area Management							
Acres where clear cutting, herbicide spraying and prescribed burning excluded	0	0	0	0	8,552	24,052	8,552
Acres managed for VRM Class III objectives	0	0	8,552	8,552	0	0	8,552

*Less than 100 acres.

Table S-2. Summary of Environmental Consequences, Comparison of Alternatives.

Allocations/Management Actions by Alternative							
	No Action	A	B	C	D	E	Preferred
Air Quality							
Tons of fuel burned annually in prescribed fires, 10 years ³	60,100	60,100	60,100	80,100	30,300	10,800	80,100
Water Quality							
No. of watersheds probably improving (10 years)	0	0	0	6	9	10	7
No. of watersheds probably declining (10 years)	11	12	10	5	6	3	6
Biological Diversity (After 10 years)							
Mature Forest	79,600	85,700	83,700	79,800	77,700	85,300	66,700
Old-Growth	42,400	34,700	44,600	106,900	94,359	115,600	91,700
Riparian Trend (200 years)							
+, -, 0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
Dominant Woodpecker Population							
Percent of optimum, 10 years	38	35	38	58	54	57	52
Elk Habitat (10 years)							
No. habitat areas improving	0	0	2	1	6	7	6
No. habitat areas unchanged	0	0	0	15	11	14	10
No. habitat areas declining	21	21	19	5	4	0	5
Potential Fish Populations							
200 Years +, -, 0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+

Summary

Table S-2. Summary of Environmental Consequences, Comparison of Alternatives. (cont.)

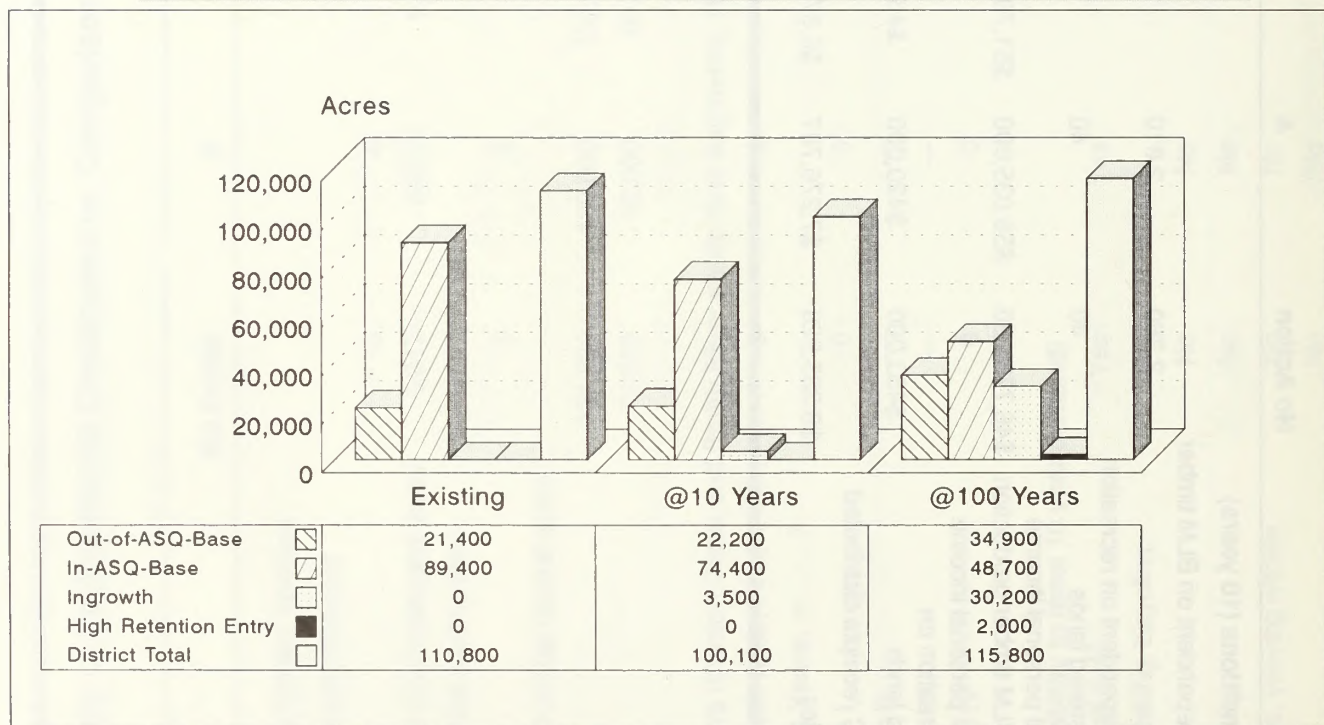
	No Action	A	B	C	D	E	Preferred
Threatened and Endangered Species							
Bald eagle existing and potential nest sites protected	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Columbian White-tailed Deer managed acres	6,017	6,017	6,017	6,017	6,017	6,017	6,017
Peregrine Falcon potential nesting cliffs protected	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Northern Spotted Owl suitable habitat acres (10 years)	131,800	130,000	139,000	173,000	190,000	208,000	174,000
(100 years)	79,000	32,000	69,000	372,000	179,000	317,000	177,000
Wild and Scenic Rivers (Canton Creek and Smith River study river segments, 10 years)							
Outstandingly remarkable value, Fish; +, -, 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Visual Resources, 10 Years; +, -, 0							
Inventoried VRM Class I	0	0	0	0	0	+	0
Inventoried VRM Class II	—	—	—	0	+	+	0
Inventoried VRM Class III	—	—	—	+	+	+	+
Inventoried VRM Class IV	0	0	0	+	+	NA	+
Recreation Use (Capability to meet 10 year demand)							
Off-road travel (ATV and 4x4)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Non-motorized travel (hiking, bicycling, horseback)	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Camping	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Picnicking, study nature, viewing wildlife	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Boating	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Swimming, general waterplay	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Areas closed to ORV use	10,465	10,465	12,901	14,200	15,131	15,131	15,131

Table S-2. Summary of Environmental Consequences, Comparison of Alternatives. (cont.)

	No Action	A	B	C	D	E	Preferred
Socioeconomic Conditions (10 years)							
Planning area jobs dependent on BLM timber production	2,360	2,810	2,600	790	860	200	1,010
Planning area jobs dependent on recreation on BLM-administered lands	40	40	40	50	50	50	50
Planning area annual personal income dependent on BLM timber production	\$46,773,000	\$56,035,000	\$51,797,000	\$14,688,000	\$17,052,000	\$3,888,000	\$19,708,000
Planning area annual personal income dependent on recreation on BLM-administered lands	\$453,000	\$420,000	\$461,000	\$552,000	\$535,000	\$612,000	\$582,000
Average annual O&C receipts distributed to Douglas counties	\$6,385,928	\$7,276,787	\$6,872,452	\$2,006,185	\$2,545,683	\$568,702	\$2,883,438

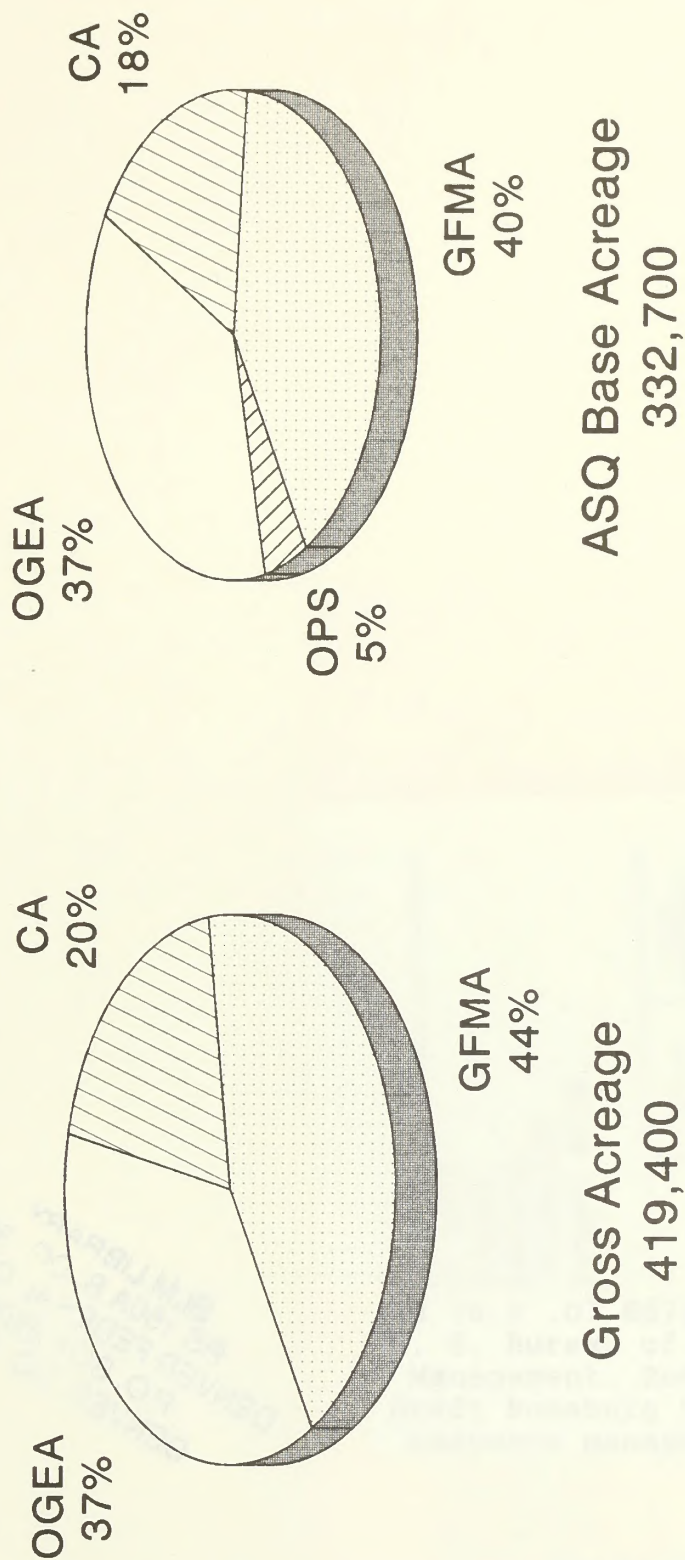
Table S-3. Special Status Species Found on BLM-administered Lands.

	Number of Plant Species	Number of Animal Species
Federal Threatened	0	2
Federal Endangered	0	1
Federal Proposed	0	0
Federal Candidate	3	7
State Listed	1	3
Bureau Sensitive	3	1

Figure S-1. Old Growth Forest Habitat Projections
Preferred Alternative

Out-of-ASQ-Base acreage estimates adjusted for projected wildfire incidents.
 Ingrowth projections represent In-ASQ-Base lands only.
 High Retention Entry represents regeneration harvest projections in the OGEA's.

**Figure S-2. Forest Management Allocations
Preferred Alternative**



GFMA: General Forest Management Areas
OGEA: Old-Growth Emphasis Areas

CA: Connectivity Areas
OPS: Owl Pair Sites

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